

**FREDERICKSBURG  
RECREATION COMMISSION  
Minutes of October 15, 2009**

The October meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:08 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Brian Baker, Bob Carter, Tim Duffy, George Foster (arrived late), Ken Kroko, Charles McDaniel, Barbara Miller-Richards, George Solley, and Susan Tyler. Also in attendance: Robert Antozzi and Patricia Sparks.

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of September 17, 2009 were unanimously approved.
- II. **Public Comment:** None.
- III. **Communications from the Director:** The Commissioners reviewed the following reports:
  - A. Financial Report – September 2009
  - B. Sports Notes July – October 2009
  - C. Leisure Report/Pool Expense Report – October-November 2009- Commissioner Kroko stated that he would like to review policies, procedures, management, signage, etc. in regards to the 2010 pool season. The Commissioners agreed to begin discussing the 2010 pool season in January.
  - D. Follow-up Report October 15, 2009 – The Commissioners received a soccer field rental fee comparison report submitted by the sports staff. The Commissioners agreed that the rental fees for Dixon Park fields are comparable to surrounding county soccer field rates.
  - E. Updated Commission List
  - F. E-mail to PRPF from Nancy Kimble
- IV. **Noteworthy Dates:** The Commissioners reviewed upcoming Parks and Recreation programs.
- V. **Old Business:**
  - A. **Pathways** – Dr. Antozzi reported that the City is waiting on several projects to be completed. Two months ago, the National Park Service was scheduled to conduct the test pits on a proposed area of the VCR trail to determine the location of the historical Old Mill sites. The test site area is located off of Lafayette Boulevard near the National Park Service Visitors Center. The engineer and the environmental firm, which were hired by the engineer and the National Park Service, will coordinate the construction of the sewer system. Dr. Antozzi

is pushing to keep the project moving forward. Gordon and Associates continues to send documentation regarding the progress being made on the development of the Heritage Trail. Commissioner Solley reported that he had spoken to Chief Nye in reference to attending a Pathway Steering Committee meeting at the end of the month to address police presence on the canal paths. Commissioner Solley reported that he felt patrolling the pathways in a car would deter people from using them. The Commissioners discussed recommending bike or foot patrol. Dr. Antozzi confirmed with Commissioner Solley to have "Pathways Security System" added to the Pathway Steering Committee's agenda for October 29, 2009.

**B. Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Partnership** – Dr. Antozzi reported that the City now has a resolution for the funding of the City's portion of the project. City Council has executed and finalized an agreement for the lease and maintenance policy. The City has notified the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation that the steps are complete and they are to begin the process of procurement for construction. Commissioner Miller-Richards requested a schedule on the construction timeline.

**C. Riverfront Park** – Wings on the Water no longer exists. The grading was scheduled to begin today. The dump trucks that were brought in are too big and they will destroy the parking lot. Dr. Antozzi has requested that they bring in smaller dump trucks.

**D. Sports Team Placement** – The Commissioners received and reviewed a handout from Mike Ward on behalf of the Recreation Commission Youth Policy subcommittee in reference to youth sports team placement.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Tyler, and unanimously agreed upon to approve the changes as written in reference to the Youth Sports Policy.***

The subcommittee will continue to address issues such as "Coaches Code of Conduct" that will be incorporated into the Youth Sports Policy.

**E. Policy on Alcohol at the DHCC** – Dr. Antozzi reviewed the updated guidelines and rates on renting the Community Center. The proposed alcohol policy will interface with the rental policy. The Commissioners made several suggestions and corrections on the terminology. The suggestions were noted. The City Manager is currently reviewing the document as written. The discussion will continue in December.

- F. Finally Friday Report** – The Commissioners reviewed the Finally Friday Comparison Report. The Commissioners agreed that the weather and the concerts at Central Park had a significant impact on the attendance of Finally Friday events. The Commissioners agreed that it is a local event for the community and to continue with the event for 2010-2011. Several topics were discussed to include moving the event or only having the event in July, August, and September. Discussion will continue in December.
- G. Doris Buffett Recognition** - Commissioner Baker reported that he will have information at the December meeting.

**VI. New Business:**

- A. City Property Initiative Report** – Dr. Antozzi reported that the map is complete. The next meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2009. The committee is ready to start looking at how they will begin to make their decisions on where to have parks. Dr. Antozzi reported that he would e-mail the map to the Commissioners. They were also encouraged to review the map at the end of the meeting.
- B. Banquet Award Options** – The Recreation Commission's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet is scheduled for November 19, 2009. The Recreation Commission selected the following nominees to receive awards:

**Contributor of the Year:**

The Sunshine Lady Foundation - \$39,151

**Sports Volunteer of the Year:**

Donnie Seal - 195 hours

Jeremy Williams – 195 hours

**New Volunteer Coach of the Year:**

Tim Bahre – 195 hours

**Alvin Staples Leisure Volunteer of the Year Award:**

Darrell Hayden – 50 hours

**Hall of Fame Award:**

Thomas Sherman – 1,584 hours

**Special Support Award:**

Friends of the Fredericksburg Dog Park – This group has contributed countless hours to the Dog Park in their rule enforcement and improvement efforts. They also went through a major fundraising effort, which culminated with the erection of a \$40,000 shelter, kiosk, a dog

paw friendly surface, and a wonderful ribbon cutting ceremony. There was no cost to the City for this project.

**Meritorious Service Awards: (500 hours or \$5,000)**

Jeffrey Bain, Regina Baker, David Black, Robert Carter, Dan Hoffman, Pam Jewett-Bullock, Will Jones, Leslie Leahy, Joe Nicotera, Allstate Insurance, Law Office of Murphy and Strickland, Virginia Paving Company

**Distinguished Meritorious Service Award: (1,000 hours or \$10,000)**

Nick Eissen, Phil Fitzhugh, Jeremy Williams, Simply Web Services, LLC

**Golden Partnership Award: (2000 hours or \$100,000)**

Star Radio Group

**Excellence in Service Award: (10 years of service then increments of 5)**

Wendy Stone (20 years)  
Linda Bailey (15 years)  
Roy Allen (10 years)  
Shelly Shipman (10 years)  
Michael Ward (10 years)

**Recreation Commission Award:**

Pathway Partners – This group planned and constructed the  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile Smith Run Trail, which begins behind the Police Department and concludes at a new foot bridge off of Cowan Boulevard. Two hundred and twenty-six man hours were volunteered and over \$1,100 worth of supplies were donated or purchased in the construction of the trail. There was no cost to the City for this project.

**Past Recreation Commissioner:**

R. Edward Crosslin June, 2003 – Oct., 2008

**C. Staff Proposal on Trophy Policy Revision and**

**Sponsorships** - In September, the Commissioners asked the sports staff to research the issuance of participation trophies to all youth sports players. The Commissioners discussed in entirety several proposals made by the sports staff. The Commissioners agreed on the following option as written.

***Players in age groups that do not have an end of season playoff (Novice teams, Rookie field hockey, and T-ball and Coach Pitch baseball) would receive standard participant trophies. All age groups that have an end of season playoff would receive a participation medal, and finalists in the division tournaments would receive an upgraded trophy.***

**D. Dixon Park Facility Use Policy** – The Commissioners discussed the field usage at Dixon Park. Dr. Antozzi stated that currently the fields are only rented to SASA and FASA for tournament play. No individual rentals are considered. The Commissioners agreed that with internal controls in place to monitor the field usage that a change in the policy is not needed at this time. However, the Commissioners agreed to begin reviewing the policy in December for future use.

**VII. Commission Concerns and Topics:**

**None.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Approved by the Recreation Commission

 12/11/09  
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Robert Antozzi, Director Date

Next Commission Meeting Thursday, December 10, 2009.